

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 5, 2003  
ROOM 235 ALBEMARLE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Cox, Charlottesville Department of Social Services  
Madison Cummings, Albemarle Citizen Representative  
Dr. Michael Dickens, Charlottesville Citizen Representative  
Leslie Harris-Scott, Charlottesville Citizen Representative  
Holly Hatcher, Charlottesville Citizen Representative  
Mark Kindler, Albemarle Citizen Representative  
Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia Representative  
Dr. Susan McLeod, Thomas Jefferson Health District  
Linda Peacock, City of Charlottesville  
Jim Peterson, Region Ten Community Services Board  
Kathy Ralston, Vice-Chair, Albemarle Department of Social Services  
Sterling Robinson, Albemarle Citizen Representative  
Andrew Roland, Charlottesville Youth Representative  
Ruth Stone, Chair, Private Provider  
Roxanne White, County of Albemarle  
Ashley Young, Albemarle Youth Representative

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Martha Carroll, 16<sup>th</sup> District Court Services Unit  
Dr. Kevin Castner, Albemarle County Schools  
Ron Hutchinson, Charlottesville City Schools  
Larry Miller, Albemarle Citizen Representative  
Debbie Pomerantz, Charlottesville Citizen Representative  
Cathy Train, United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area

**CCF STAFF PRESENT:**

Saphira Baker, Director  
Gretchen Ellis, Planner/Analyst  
Cindy Stratton, Administrative Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kathy Dowd, Charlottesville City Schools  
Gina Hijjawi, University of Virginia Student  
Cara Marinucci, Region Ten Community Services  
Jon Nafziger, United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area  
Melvin Wilson, University of Virginia

**HANDOUTS (PRIOR TO MEETING):**

Agenda for February 5, 2003 Meeting  
Albemarle County Youth Risk Behavior Study  
CCF Meeting Minutes for January 8, 2003  
CART Confidential Report  
Community Needs Assessment Draft Report  
Director's Report  
CSA Committee Report  
CSA Financial Reports for Charlottesville and Albemarle  
Guidelines and Expectations for CCF Work Groups  
Post-Retreat Follow-up Materials  
Priority Survey

**HANDOUTS (PRIOR TO MEETING):**

Work Group Sign Up Sheets

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION (S) NEEDED:**

## **I. WELCOME**

R. Stone, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m. and welcomed Commissioners and all others present.

## **II. SPECIFICATION OF ITEM (S) TO BE ADDED AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was amended to reverse the order of items to make Work Group Reports item IV and CCF Priorities Survey/Work Group template item V.

- **THE AGENDA WAS ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY CONCENSUS.**

## **III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

## **IV. MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 8, 2003 MEETING**

R. Stone, Chair, called for changes to and adoption of the minutes. The minutes were amended as follows:

Item VI. was corrected to state that the CCF would like to have additional information on the Albemarle Risk Behavior Survey in relation to CCF data. Item VII. was corrected to state that R. White made the presentation to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors and not K. Ralston.

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by M. Dickens. K. Ralston seconded the motion.

- **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **V. WORK GROUP REPORTS**

### **COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT – G. Ellis**

G. Ellis distributed copies of the draft document to those members who needed them. Members of the Work Group who were present were introduced. She provided an overview of the history and charge of the work group and an overview of the research and the survey process. She stated that there was a need for more analysis and highlighted two areas of need and reviewed unmet needs from the report. She then entertained comments and questions from Commissioners. Comments, suggestions and questions were as follows:

1. Unmarried: Provide clear definition
2. Issues to explore further in Focus Groups
  - a. How many religious activities are children involved in?
  - b. Transportation issues
  - c. Employment and job training
  - d. Access to services
3. Explore in the data
  - a. Need to examine unmarried and low-income families and individuals more closely.
  - b. Participation of children in out of school activities: explore further in terms of age by time spent in the activity.
4. Break up by ages
  - a. Criminal justice involvement
  - b. Employment by job training
5. Is it possible to analysis the respondents' age, income, and/or marital status with regard to their medical care needs identified and met?
6. In charts: include percentages and actual number of respondents
  - a. Add checks for validity
  - b. Add column of extrapolations
7. Can we correlate our needs assessment data with the Youth Risk Behavior Survey data from the County?
8. Lack of access to sports for low-income children
9. Internet as a source of information: Need to explain this in terms of other answers possible, since we didn't offer the option of an outreach worker coming to home or worksite, for example.
10. Utilize MACCA data and County reports to provide comparisons as needed.
11. Interaction of children with other races. Analyze whether perceived discrimination happened with children at school, or with parents at the worksite.

12. Go through report and make sure certain findings are explained in terms of how questions were asked and possible answers.

She concluded the presentation with four items the Work Group would like to study further. They were:

- **Analysis and cross-tabulation of the needs of lower income and unmarried households**
- **Identification of further characteristics of those reporting discrimination**
- **More information about youth access to productive activities.**
- **Information about youth in the criminal justice system**

R. Stone thanked the Work Group members for their hard work. G. Ellis invited members to send additional comments and or questions to her.

#### **CSA COMMITTEE – B. Cox**

B. Cox stated that the City had completed its request for supplemental CSA funds from the State and that the County was working on their request. He also noted that Medicaid reimbursements were behind, which affected the report figures. He reviewed the year to date figures for children served and noted that last years' figures needed to be corrected to give a more accurate count. He stated that the IVE figures would be higher as well.

B. Cox gave an update of the Ad Hoc committee on FAPT and informed the group of the development of an ad hoc group on CSA cost containment, noting that the charge of the group was being developed. He informed the members of the City's efforts to look at the high foster care rate and discussions with Lisa Aronson from the University of Virginia Center for the Study of Mind and Human Interaction. R. White stated that the Board of Supervisors are very concerned about the rising costs of CSA and the development of cost reduction measures. She suggested that Charles Martin be invited to participate on the cost containment ad hoc committee. L. Peacock suggested that someone from the schools be included as well. B. Cox stated that the CSA committee desired to keep the size of the ad hoc committee at a manageable number and assured that they would look at a variety of factors and concerns. R. White suggested that they contact the County Attorney's office for a reading on the legal mandate of CSA services. There was additional discussion regarding the factors which drive the expenditure of funds and the impact those expenditures have on other services in the community.

#### **VI. CCF PRIORITIES SURVEY/WORK GROUP TEMPLATE – R. STONE**

R. Stone requested member who had not completed their priority survey to do so. W. Lawrence stated that the form was confusing and that she had difficulty completing its. Baker and R. Stone gave an overview of how the survey was developed and why. There was general discussion of the survey design. Several members stated that they found the survey to be helpful and that it was hard to make the rating decisions. Simultaneously, members circulated a Work Group member sign up form to review/specify their interest in CCF's established Work Groups.

H. Hatcher expressed her desire to develop a community outreach effort for CCF and invited other members to join this group. S. Baker noted that it was envisioned that the work of the group would be time limited and its intent would be to come up with a communications and outreach plan for CCF.

R. Stone asked members to review the *Guidelines and Expectations for CCF Work Groups* previously distributed and let her know if there were comments or suggestions.

#### **VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – S. BAKER**

S. Baker presented members of the FY 04 Agency Budget Review Team members with thank you gifts for their hard work, put together by Cindy Stratton on behalf of the CCF staff. She noted that CCF had been awarded a grant for the Belmont Family Violence Work Group initiative.

#### **VIII. MEMBERS' COMMENTS/KEY MESSAGE UPDATES – R. STONE**

There were none.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:40p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cynthia Stratton,  
CCF Administrative Secretary

***THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE  
MARCH 5, 2003  
ROOM 235 OF THE ALBEMARLE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING***